



# St Mark's School

## Te Kura o Hato Māka

Term 4 Week 1  
16 October 2024

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

A big welcome back to Term 4, 2024! I hope everyone has had a happy school holiday time and that students are rested and ready to learn. We are entering probably the busiest time of the year with any number of important school events.

Just a reminder to keep your eyes on the school app messages. Everything you need to know about all of the amazing things happening at school will be there.

### Teacher Practice

I would like to share with the community the work our teachers are doing behind the scenes that parents often don't know is happening. Our teachers are constantly evaluating their practice (the work they do with students every day) to maximise student success and learning. Last term every teacher filmed themselves teaching then analysed that footage with a colleague. They viewed it through the lens of what we know makes for effective pedagogy and facilitates learning. As a staff we always say "know your impact" and bear down on the learning of every student.

### St Mark's netball team at Koru Games

Our basketball and netball teams performed admirably at Koru Games in the last week of last term. Skill levels were high as were the standards of sportsmanship and respect. Both teams represented St Mark's so well. Well done to all Year 7 and 8 students involved.



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*



# St Mark's School

## Te Kura o Hato Māka

### School Roll For 2025

A significant piece of work has been formulating our school roll for next year. The one unknown we still have is any students leaving us at the end of this year. The reasons families leave us are many and varied. **If you intend to take your child to another school next year, please let us know as soon as possible.** This information contributes greatly to the planning process for 2025.

### Annual Awards Structure / Prize Giving

Thank you to everyone who has responded to our survey earlier this year on the end of year prize giving structure. It was interesting and informative to read your thoughts.

Your responses have clearly indicated that the current prize giving structure is not fit for purpose and that there is a real mandate for change.

Informed by survey feedback, senior staff have restructured this event as follows.

**A daytime prize giving on Wednesday 11 December from 1:30pm** in the school hall. All whānau are welcome to attend and this event will be live streamed and recorded.

It will include:

- 2nd and 3rd place getter certificates from events throughout the year
- Book awards for New Entrant students
- Sporting cup prizes
- Cultural cup prizes

**A formal prize giving ceremony on Monday 16 December in the school hall at the new, earlier time of 6pm.** It is likely this ceremony will be significantly shorter than in past years. All whānau are welcome to attend and this event will be live streamed and recorded.

The event will include:

- Speeches from the Student Leaders, PA, BOT, BOP and Principal
- Kapa Haka performance and award
- Major cup prizes

### WAKA PUHARA WHAKATAUKI

*Kia kotahi te hoe o te waka*

*Let's paddle in unison.*

Blessings to all,  
Adrian



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*

Church Certificates

Īnaka	Edward T/Lottie P/Emma P/Ben H
Pūtakitaki	Enzo H
Harakeke	Emelia G
Kawau	Dante E
Kāmana	Hudson W
Pīngao	Imogen B
Wheke	Maddox A
Mako	Cleo F
Toroa	Lilybelle T
Hāpuka	Millie H



The Duck Dash



A duck race fundraiser is a charity event where the community donate \$2 per numbered rubber duck. The ducks are assigned by number to the donors.

These ducks are then released en masse into a body of water, and raced to the predetermined finish line. The first ducks to cross the finish line wins the prize of a Gelato Lab voucher.

There are 20 ducks in each race. There will be ten races in total. In each race you are allowed to sponsor a maximum of three ducks.

The money raised will go towards costs of flights and accommodation for our students representing New Zealand in the Tournament of Minds competition in Sydney.

If possible, can a family member accompany any child to the office to choose a duck/s and donate.



The Pink Ribbon Appeal for the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation is on Friday the 18 and Saturday the 19th of October this year. We will be having a **non-uniform day/gold coin donation on Friday the 18th**, and we encourage the students and staff to wear something pink that day.

If any families wish to become collectors in the area for either day you can sign up at <https://pinkribbonvolunteer.org.nz/>. Time slots are only 2 hours long, and are a lovely easy way for kids and adults alike to support a worthy cause.

## 2024 Term 4 Events

20 October	Waka Puhara at St Mark's Church
24 October	Music Festival Performance - Town Hall
28 October	Labour Day ( <b>school closed</b> )
29 October	Teacher Only Day ( <b>school closed</b> )
5 November	School Chess Tournament
6 November	School Athletics Day
7 November	School Photographs
9 November	School Fair
15 November	Canterbury Anniversary Day ( <b>school closed</b> )
20 November	Itinerant Teacher/Performance Night
27 November	Canterbury Primary Athletics
28-29 November	Year 7 Leadership Camp
3 December	Year 8 Leavers' Dinner
10 December	New Parent Evening
11 December	Internal Prize giving - school hall - 1:30pm
12 December	Carol Service - Christ Church Cathedral - 7pm
16 December	Prize giving - school hall - 6:00pm
17 December	End of Term Service

## 2025 Term Dates

### Term 1

11 weeks.

Monday 27 January - Friday 11 April.

Includes: Learning Conferences 27 - 28 January  
Regular classes start on Wednesday 29 January  
Waitangi Day Thursday 6 February

### Term 2

9 weeks.

Monday 28 April - Friday 27 June.

Includes: Kahui Ako Teacher Only Day Friday 30 May  
King's Birthday Monday 2 June  
Matariki Friday 20 June

### Term 3

10 weeks.

Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September

### Term 4

10 weeks.

Monday 6 October - Friday 12 December

Includes: Labour Day 27 October  
Canterbury Anniversary 14 November

# 2024 St Mark's Chess Cup



Students will be able to compete for the school chess cups again this year through a large scale, one day competition. This is scheduled to take place on Tuesday the 5th of November and competitors will play 6 games throughout the day. Play is split into two divisions; Junior (Yr 0-5) and Senior (Year 6-8).

Close to 80 students have entered so check with your tamariki to see if they will be playing! Parents and whānau will be welcome along to spectate. An estimated timetable of game start times will be sent out closer to the date.

I hope to see you at what promises to be a fantastic event!





## The Duck Dash!

Mr Gordon is the proud owner of plastic ducks. He has always wanted to race them. If your duck wins the race, you win a prize!

**\$2 per duck.** This Duck Dash will be held each week. **Sign up at the school office.**

Proceeds go to sending our students overseas to represent New Zealand!

Winning ducks equal Gelato Lab vouchers!



## What is Tournament of Minds?

At Nationals in Wellington, we had three hours to prepare a 10-minute performance with zero outside assistance. Our challenge was to launch a binge-able TV show in a specific genre, featuring lines from three poems we had studied. Judging criteria included performance skills, use of humour, verse, incorporation of poetry, and the creativity of our response to the challenge.



So far, we have raised \$460 on our [Givealittle page](#). We would be so grateful for your support to help us get to Sydney for the International TOM Final.



**givealittle**  
POWERED BY  perpetual guardian



# 2024 National Interschool Chess Finals



In the first weekend of the school holiday break St Mark's was represented at a national level by Zach, James, Harry and Finn. They qualified after winning regionally earlier this year.

Competition was fierce, with plenty of talented players and teams to showdown against. The boys played hard, putting up a good fight and ended up on a score of 6/14 for tournament.

Well done to them all for the way they took up the challenge, played their best and represented St Mark's admirably.

Here's to future chess success in the school!





**\$2  
EACH**



# **SAUSAGE SIZZLE THIS FRIDAY!**

- **Cash orders due Thursday.**
- **Hand into teachers.**
- **Raising money for Year 8  
EOY activities!**



Girls/children supported in casual and informative conversations around Menstrual Cycle Awareness go on to have better relationships with their Cycle

Give them the best start!

Celebration Day for Girls workshop, a one day positive period preparation programme for 9-12 year olds.

Groups are kept small to encourage sharing and conversation. Mum's join in at the end. A fun day of arts and crafts, Kai and games with the wisdom sprinkled in.

[www.celebrationdayforgirls.com](http://www.celebrationdayforgirls.com)

Email me for more info!

[cdg.alicetabak@gmail.com](mailto:cdg.alicetabak@gmail.com)



## A Celebration Day for Girls™

GIRLS WORKSHOP  
Positive Period Preparation

SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 2024  
10am - 4pm

TE ARA SOPHIA, ŌPAWA  
CHRISTCHURCH

Email for info or to register!  
[cdg.alicetabak@gmail.com](mailto:cdg.alicetabak@gmail.com)

FB @celebrationdaychch  
IG @cdgalice

[www.celebrationdayforgirls.com](http://www.celebrationdayforgirls.com)



*comradery*



*connection*



*celebration*



**YOUR LOCAL SALES CONSULTANT**

# **JULIA DALY**



## **Do you know someone who is looking to sell their property?**

Refer them to Julia, and you'll be helping to support us!

Here's how it works:

1. Refer a property listing to Julia.
2. When the property is successfully sold, Julia will donate \$1000 to St Marks School.

Your referral not only helps someone find the perfect home it also directly benefits the children at our school.

Spread the word and make a difference today!

For more information, contact

**JULIA DALY**

022 0305 285 | [julia.daly@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:julia.daly@harcourts.co.nz)

**HARCOURTS FERRYMEAD**

**Harcourts** |  **GRENADIER**

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# SUPPORTING ST MARK'S SCHOOL



## Part of the St Mark's School Family

For every home referred and sold or listed and sold with us within the school family, we will donate \$1000 to St. Marks School.\*

With Sonia being a past parent, now grandparent, and Sophie a current parent at St Mark's, we are proudly involved with the school community and look forward to giving back.

**Supporting St Mark's school,  
now and for its future**

\* Terms and conditions apply.

**Sonia Cameron** | 027 220 5665  
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**Sophie Everson** | 021 025 46007  
sophie.everson@bayleys.co.nz



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